

United States Air Force Auxiliary

Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol



For Immediate Release

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MEMBER RECEIVES AWARD

Breezy Point, MN – Major Richard Josephson received Minnesota Wing's Emergency Services Specialist of the Year Award during a ceremony on May 4th. Major Josephson is Commander of the St Cloud Squadron that meets on Thursday Nights at St Cloud Regional Airport.

The Emergency Services Specialist Award recognizes an officer who is proficient in the conduct and administration of Emergency Services Programs at the unit level. CAP Emergency Services missions include:

Search and Rescue (SAR): CAP now flies more than 85 percent of all federal inland SAR missions directed by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley AFB, Virginia. Outside of the continental United States, CAP supports the Joint Rescue Coordination Centers in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Disaster Relief: CAP provides air and ground transportation, and an extensive communications network. They fly disaster relief officials to remote locations, and support local, state and national disaster relief organizations with manpower, leadership and other valuable and needed resources.

CAP has formal agreements with many government and humanitarian relief agencies such as the American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Aviation Administration, National Transportation Safety Board and the United States Coast Guard.

Humanitarian Services: Closely related to disaster relief is CAP's support of humanitarian missions. Usually in support of the Red Cross, CAP air crews transport time-sensitive medical materials including blood and human tissue in situations where other means of transportation are not possible.

Counterdrugs: CAP joined the "war on drugs" in 1986 when CAP signed an agreement with the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Customs Service offering CAP resources to be used to stem the flow of drugs into and within the United States. Today, CAP has similar agreements with the Drug Enforcement Administration and the U.S. Forest Service.

Major Josephson received his award at the 2002 Minnesota Wing Conference, held at Breezy Point Resort 3-5 May.

Civil Air Patrol, the official U. S. Air Force Auxiliary, is a civilian, volunteer, nonprofit, service organization. The unpaid members perform more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and conduct one of America's finest youth programs through CAP Cadet Programs.

There are more than 1300 Civil Air Patrol members in Minnesota.

For more information about Civil Air Patrol go to our website www.mnwg.cap.gov or call 1-800-FLY-2338.